

EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL
MINUTES
April 4, 2006

The Edgefield County Council held its regular meeting on Tuesday, April 4, 2006, in the County Council Chambers, 225 Jeter Street, Edgefield, S.C.

Members present

C. Monroe Kneece, Chairman
Willie C. Bright, Vice Chairman
Norman Dorn, Councilman
Joel D. Hudson, Councilman
B. Everette Kitchens, Councilman

Others present

Wayne Adams, County Administrator
John F. Byrd, Jr., County Attorney
Barbara R. Stark, Clerk to Council
and others as per list attached

The Chairman called the meeting to order and Councilman Hudson gave the invocation, after which all present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

Motion was made by Councilman Bright, seconded by Councilman Dorn, to approve the Edgefield County Council Meeting Minutes of March 7, 2006, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Reports

No comments.

Ordinances

Motion was made by Councilman Kitchens, seconded by Councilman Bright, to approved first reading of Ordinance No. 05-06-577, "An Ordinance Amending Title XV, Chapter 152 of the Edgefield County Code of Ordinances to Establish a Rural-Residential Development Zoning District, to Specify Uses Permitted Therein, and to Determine those Tax Map Parcels Included Within its Boundaries." Motion carried unanimously.

During discussion of the ordinance, Councilman Hudson asked if the County had notified everyone in the area proposed for zoning. Ms. Nadine Horne, a resident of the area, stated they (community members) have contacted everyone they possibly could. He asked if the county had contacted the concerned by mail. Howard Gibson, director of building and planning, stated that once the public hearing is established letters will be sent to each property owner and the area will be posted with a public hearing notice. (The public hearing will be held May 2, 2006, along with the second reading.) Councilman Hudson

EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL
MINUTES
April 4, 2006

Ms. Horne said she has a petition with signatures from 65% of the property owners indicating they want the zoning. Mr. Gibson confirmed that he had cross-referenced the petition to verify property ownership – 144 of the 232 property owners' names were present.

A discussion among Council and staff ensued concerning new legislation affecting setbacks for consolidated animal feeding operations (CAFOs), which the administrator stated would not prevent zoning out CAFOs, unless the zoning restrictions included some kind of setback requirement. The proposed zoning will not allow CAFOs.

The first reading of Ordinance No. 05-06-579, "An Ordinance providing for the FY 2006-07 Edgefield County Operating and Ancillary Budgets" was approved by a motion made Councilman Bright, seconded by Councilman Kitchens. Motion carried unanimously.

Reg Williams (Soil & Water Conservation District) addressed Council concerning their budget request. "Soil & Water has been receiving \$2,500 from the county for quite some time, and they are asking for an increase to \$10,000. This goes toward the running of the organization's Edgefield office. The Soil & Water Conservation District, from 2003 to 2006, paid out a little over \$4,772,000 in federal dollars that went to people in Edgefield County. "That is a huge economic impact here in the county. Sometimes, they have worked with the county – did some sizing of some pipe in Trenton for the county on Windy Ridge Road. We have cost-share money available from time to time and we worked with the county on a road behind Sportsman Corner, and actually paid for some gravel and fabric to put down for erosion. We feel that the Conservation District has several services that they could offer the county and maybe the county has not been utilizing their services to the fullest. We just want to make sure the county feels like they are getting something for the funding and are here to offer the Conservation District's services to the county to try to help them within the means that are possible and within what our personnel constraints will allow us to do."

The Storm Water Act will be in Effect for Edgefield County in the next couple of years or so. It means that building activity in the county, subdivisions or whatever, will have to comply with a storm water plan of how that water and the runoff will be handled; a major expense for the county. "I am not here to say that the Conservation District will take care of all the burden, but there are situations where the District can help the County and cut some costs."

Councilman Hudson made the motion to accept second reading of Ordinance No. 05-06-578, "An Ordinance Enacting and Adopting a Supplement to the Code of Ordinances for Edgefield County, SC. Councilman Bright seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL
MINUTES
April 4, 2006

New Business

Piedmont Tech

Mr. Jim Klauber, Piedmont Technical College, came before Council to ask for its support on a grant application. "Last year the General Assembly appropriated 9.3 million dollars to be distributed by Competitive Grants Committee formed under the SC Budget and Control Board. The Speaker of the House, President of the Senate, and Chairman of the House Ways & Means and the Governor's office have appointed representatives to that committee. They have now have issued criteria for awarding competitive grants. There is no maximum or minimum- really very loosely structured – grant requests only have to fall under one of four areas: Health & Environmental; Economic Development; Travel & Tourism, or Other. The grant deadlines are next week. The two eligible entities that can apply for grants are local government and/or charitable foundations. The Piedmont Technical College Foundation would like to partner with Edgefield County to apply for a competitive grant for our local pottery project. A program has already hired a director who comes from very successful, similar program in North Carolina – a community college whose pottery program has a waiting list of three years. He is retiring and will be here in June. A \$350,000 grant request has been put together and we are just asking council to sign on as the partner and applicant (will not cost county anything). "

Councilman Hudson made a motion to sponsor the SC Budget & Control Board Competitive Grant toward Piedmont Tech's proposed pottery project. The motion was seconded by Councilman Dorn and passed unanimously.

SC National Heritage Corridor

Ms. Michelle McCollum, Ex. Director, addressed council concerning funding by the county of \$30,000. She gave a brief history of the Heritage Corridor and its benefit to the county. The Heritage Corridor receives federal funds, and Ms. McCollum is asking the local government to support the program. They want to see that their monies not only receive the required dollar for dollar match but the people at the local level think it is important enough that they are willing to invest in it as well. They are asking each county (14 counties) for \$30,000. "For every dollar the county puts into the program, we will re-invest back into the county into the form of product development and marketing. Pickens County has given for the past four years, and we are asking for your participation."

Consensus of council was to consider this request during the budget process.

**EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL
MINUTES
April 4, 2006**

EC Women's Softball League

A funding request of \$1,500 from the Town of Edgefield was the next item before Council. The Town is seeking this funding to help (share) offset approximately \$5,000 in softball field repairs needed prior to softball season. The County's softball league uses this field for games.

Motion was made by Councilman Kitchens, seconded by Councilman Hudson, to donate \$1,500 to the Town of Edgefield toward field repairs prior the beginning of the softball league season. The \$1,500 funding will come from the recreation escrow. Motion carried unanimously.

School District request (signs)

Sallie Cooks, Chairwoman of the EC School District Board, addressed Council requesting funding of \$1,850 for ten (10) 24"x72" signs honoring Strom Thurmond High School's State Football Championship. This is the total cost of the signs. Mrs. Cooks stated that private donations along with matching funds from the School Board paid for the rings given to the team. Councilman Dorn made the motion to approve the \$1,850 requested for the signs; Councilman Hudson seconded the motion. Mr. Hudson did state he would like to know what the signs are made of. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Cooks stated that she would let the County know what the signs will be made of before any funds are disbursed. Councilman Kitchens asked from what account these funds would come. The Administrator stated the \$1,850 would have to come from 100-279 because there is no line item for this in the current budget.

Carpet/County Buildings

Only one bid was received to install approximately 250 square yards of carpet in the following county offices:

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| EMS Building | (Star Road) |
| RMC / Clerk of Court | (Courthouse) |
| Probate Judge (2 offices) | " |
| Finance Director's Office | (Administration Office) |

This was advertised for one month, as per Howard Gibson, director of building and planning. He also sent the proposal directly to four different companies, but received only the one bid.

Chairman Kneece made a motion, seconded by Councilman Dorn, to re-bid. Motion carried unanimously.

EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL
MINUTES
April 4, 2006

Edgefield Dixie Youth Baseball League

Scott Mims, President of the Edgefield Dixie Youth Baseball League, made a request to the Recreation Commission at its meeting on March 7th to purchase two air conditioner units (\$1,000) for the League's concession building located at Painter Field. Mr. Adams stated at the recreation meeting that since this item was not included in the budget (line item) the Commission would have to vote to take this funding request to County Council for approval. We do not have a place to charge it to so council would have to be asked to fund it. The Recreation Commission voted unanimously at its April 4th meeting to bring this matter before Council.

Chairman Kneece made the motion, seconded by Councilman Kitchens, to approve the request for \$1,000, and that funding be taken from the recreation fund. The motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

Zoning Board of Appeals

The three-year terms of Michael Medlock, James Gibson, and Herbert Bettis have expired. Only one name was submitted for the three openings, and Councilman Kitchens asked for a delay in the appointments. He had spoken with a couple of people, but none had yet committed. Chairman Kneece stated that he had also talked with several people but they were not interested. Motion was made by Councilman Kitchens, seconded by Chairman Kneece to bring this back to council at its May meeting. Motion carried.

No guests.

Councilman Dorn asked for the floor. Mr. Dorn spoke of Mike Herlihy, who had attended many council meetings. Mike and Johnny Anderson had leased the EC Airport for many years before Mike was killed in a plane crash. "He was one of the finest young men to come into this chamber since I have been here. He was someone you enjoyed having at the meetings because you knew he was here for a good reason rather for a hostile reason. I did not know him that well but I just knew that every time he attended a meeting he was a gentlemen." Mr. Kneece echoed the comments made by Mr. Dorn.

Comments from the public.

Mr. Tom Rodgers, co-chairman of the Northside Legal Defense Committee was present concerning the proposed drag strip. Mr. Don Rupert, a co-chairman also, was present. Mr. Rodgers was the spokesperson. "We will withhold most of our comments until the next meeting concerning the drag strip. We are still doing a great deal of research on the drag strip, as well as the individual developer of the strip. We would certainly ask and advise all members of the council to do the same. We have found out some remarkable information, and it will have a direct bearing on our county if things go forward. We are

**EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL
MINUTES
April 4, 2006**

asking council for its help and support in our endeavor to defeat this project. Some people think we are against development – nothing could be further from the truth.”

Claims approved as follows:

PAYROLL: 2/27/06 thru 3/12/06

Regular.....\$187,496.01

PAYROLL: 3/13/06 thru 3/26/06

Regular.....\$190,985.22

B. General Operating.....\$724,980.48

Executive Session

Council convened in executive session pursuant to Code Section 30-4-70 (a) (1) of the Code of Laws 1976, as amended, concerning a personnel matter, and returned to regular session at the discretion of the Chairman.

Returning to regular session, the Chairman stated that no action was taken in executive session.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Dorn. A budget work session is scheduled for Tuesday, April 18th, with the next regular meeting being scheduled for Tuesday, May 2nd.

**EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL
MINUTES
April 4, 2006**

C. Monroe Kneece, Chairman

Willie C. Bright, Vice Chairman

Norman Dorn, Councilman

Joel D. Hudson, Councilman

B. Everette Kitchens, Councilman

ATTEST

Barbara R. Stark, Clerk to Council

